

LISS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Grounds Committee meeting held on 11th June 2018, 7pm

MEMBERS

*D. Dodds(Chairman) *K. Budden *R. Hargreaves
*H. Linsley *S. Halstead F. Macnamara *K. O'Malley *A. Smith

*Present, in addition to three members of the Liss Forest Residents Association

Clerk: Sarah Smith

15/G18 Election of Chair

Cllr Dodds, proposed by Cllr Linsley and seconded by Cllr Halstead, was duly elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

16/G18 Apologies

There were no apologies.

17/G18 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interests.

18/G18 Adjournment for public participation

Three members of Liss Forest Residents Association updated Members with regards to communications with Red Mist on a possible replacement Petanque Pitch within the pub grounds. The Chairman advised that LPC's offer of support to work towards a replacement facility still stood and requested that the LFRA keep LPC up-to-date on the issue.

The meeting was reconvened at 7.10pm.

19/G18 Minutes of the Grounds Committee Meeting on 5th March 2018

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting on 5th March 2018 be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting (proposed by Cllr O'Malley and seconded by Cllr Halstead).

20/G18 Matters Arising from Grounds Committee Meeting on 5th March 2018

74.1/G17 Millennium Mosaic repair work: Cllr MacNamara reported that no progress had been made with regards to identifying a means of repair. Cllr O'Malley undertook to continue to investigate options for repair.

06/G18 Drainage at Newman Collard: The Chairman noted that the CCTV survey commissioned at the Centenary Gardens had not taken place. It was thought that this was due to root ingress. The Chairman highlighted that s.106 funds were available for environmental improvements. However, Members noted the need to establish the works required in order to take this forward.

Resolved: That the Clerk establish what was happening with the CCTV survey; that Cllr Budden investigate whether EHDC has made use of suitable contractors in the past; that the Clerk continue dialogue with the Groundsman and establish any suitable expertise on the Flood Action Group; that Cllrs MacNamara and Smith take the issue back to the Trust as they have lead responsibility in this Area with LPC in a supporting role.

77/G17 Pond at Newman Collard: The Chairman reported that Clerk had undertaken discussions with the SDNPA regarding a possible project on bank reinstatement which would be eligible for s.106 funding. The Clerk would report back in due course.

12/G18 Path at Newman Collard: Members noted some concerns with regards to the surface of the new path which made it difficult for pushchairs and wheelchair users. Options to improve the surface would be considered where possible.

21/G18 Playground inspections

The Chairman advised that the Playground Inspection Company had undertaken their first annual inspection. This would be complemented by a further three inspections in the coming year. The Chairmen noted that the reports were extremely thorough. They contained a number of findings that were either Very Low Risk or Low Risk, with one finding at the Riverside Walk which was of moderate risk (rot in the timber balance beam).

Resolved: That the Clerk look at options for the remedial work required.

22/G18 Review of grounds equipment

The Chairman noted the information received from the Clerk's investigations into the current state of the ride-on mower. Members agreed that the machine had reached the end of its useful life.

Resolved: That the ride-on mower be sold for scrap.

23/G18 Tree issues

The Chairman noted that a request had been received from a resident of Pine Walk for works to trees at Liss Forest Recreation Ground which affected light to his property, to be carried out at his expense. The Clerk had sought advice from the tree surgeon.

Resolved: That the Clerk liaise further with the tree surgeon before agreeing to specified works which would need to be carried out by an appropriately qualified and insured tree surgeon.

The Chairman noted that a tree had fallen at Riverside Walk and Members considered a quotation for removal.

Resolved: That the Clerk would accept the quotation for removal, subject to seeking to reduce the costs of the quotation by leaving the brushwood onsite.

24/G18 Maintenance issues

The Chairman advised that a resident had reported that the bridge across the Rother to the rear of Rotherbank Farm Lane was in need of repair. Members noted that, although this was not on LPC land, LPC had installed the bridge.

Resolved: That the Clerk establish the work required and investigate whether the lengthsman could undertake the work.

25/G18 Proposals to improve leisure facilities at West Liss Recreation Ground

The Chairman presented an initial set of proposals for improved fitness and leisure facilities at West Liss recreation Ground. He highlighted that these were currently at the conceptual stage and that any project at West Liss would need to follow completion of the new pavilion would also need to fit around the football pitches.

Members welcomed the proposals which would cater to all ages and would be in line with wider strategies on increasing adult fitness and tackling childhood obesity. In terms of funding, the Chairman advised that various stands, including CIL, could be pursued in due course.

26/G18 AOB

Cllr Linsley highlighted that some clearance work was required to footpaths 3 & 4 and suggested this may be an area for the lengthsman. The Clerk undertook to add this to the lengthsman's work sheet. (Clerk's Note: It has been established that HCC Countryside Services are due to cut back vegetation on footpath 4 in 2018, so the lengthsman would be asked to work on footpath 3 only).

27/G18 Exclusion of Press and Public for Items 28/18 & 29/18

The Chairman proposed to exclude any members of the public (there were none present) and Members

agreed.

28/G18 Exempt Item: Proposal for mobile refreshment hut at Newman Collard Recreation Ground

29/G18 Extension of meeting

Members agreed an extension to the meeting of no more than 30 minutes (proposed by Cllr Hargreaves and seconded by Cllr Budden).

30/G18 Exempt Item: Staffing and contractors

The Chairman expressed his thanks to the Groundsman, Luke Mannerings, who was due to leave the employment on LPC later in the week. Members agreed that Mr Mannerings had been an asset in managing the grounds and that he merited praise for his services to LPC.

The Chairman presented a summary of the arrangements for maintaining the grounds during this season. This would comprise the services of the Assistant Groundsman two days per week during the growing season and three contractors who would cover grass cutting. Members noted that the arrangement would be monitored.

The meeting closed at 21.15pm.

Date of next meeting: 10th September 2018

Signed..... Dated.....